

THE FIRST GINSFRED IN THE PROVINCIAL CAMPAIGN

Big Liberal Mass Meeting in the Separate School Hall Addressed by Premier and Attorney General.

AUDIENCE WARMLY WELCOMED MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT

Premier Reviews the Record of the Administration and Hon. Mr. Cross Speaks of Work of His Department.

There Has Been No Criticism of the Liberal Government to There is None to Answer—Little Hail Now of the Issues of 1905—Railway Policy Pleas All Parts of the Province—People Ask to Endorse Legislation of the Past Three and a Half Years.

The Liberal campaign in Alberta was opened last night by a mass meeting in the Separate School hall at which the speaker, Hon. Dr. Rutherford, Hon. C. W. Cross and Mr. McNeill, Hon. A. McNeill. Despite the rather inclement weather, a large audience gathered to hear the speakers. The meeting was held in the Separate School hall, which was filled to capacity. The speakers were Hon. Dr. Rutherford, Hon. C. W. Cross and Mr. McNeill. The meeting was held in the Separate School hall, which was filled to capacity. The speakers were Hon. Dr. Rutherford, Hon. C. W. Cross and Mr. McNeill.

The chair was occupied by George B. McLeod, vice-president of the local Liberal association, who gave a brief but happy introductory remarks. He congratulated the speaker, Hon. Dr. Rutherford, and Hon. Mr. Cross, and wished them every success in their campaign. He then introduced the speaker, Hon. Dr. Rutherford.

Premier enthusiastically received. Hon. Dr. Rutherford, who was greeted with applause and the hearty singing of the chorus, "We're all pals together." The Premier, in opening, thanked the audience for their magnificent reception. It was fitting, he said, that he should open his campaign in the fair city of Edmonton. It was not his policy to denounce or remark, it would hardly be known that there was an opposition in the country. He then introduced the speaker, Hon. Mr. Cross.

The Conservatives had held a convention at Red Deer and one of their plans was a criticism of the government. There were no critics to answer for whom had been offered the administration.

Three and a half years ago the government had been organized with a number having little experience in politics. Mr. Finlay and himself had been short terms in the Territorial House, but both Mr. Cross and Mr. Cushing had never been in a parliament before. They were selected then at his request and he was delighted.

On November 20, 1900, the Liberal party had a great victory, and with good conditions for the future there was no reason that the government should not be returned. In August of that year a convention had been held in Calgary, and its place had since been carried out. A business government was what the people wanted to give Alberta, and he thought he had been successful.

Since Alberta became a province a revenue was being derived from many sources, and not a few of them territorial taxes. During the past three years large sums have been collected from the C.P.R. and the Alberta Irrigation Company's line. To this tax on their branch lines the C.P.R. had acquiesced. Small taxes had been levied on insurance and liquor corporations, banks, etc., where the stock is largely held in the east. These companies were deriving considerable revenue from Alberta, and it was only proper that they should pay towards the administration of the province.

Other items of revenue were from liquor licenses, registry offices, Attorney-General's department, etc. In all, the year's revenue would amount to something over \$100,000, and a surplus of about \$12,000 was expected.

No Money Had Been Borrowed. Instead of paying interest to the banks for the money they had borrowed, it had received about \$100,000 from the banks by way of interest.

The government policy was to improve the public buildings, but even so, the proposed repairs and expenditure for the year, amounting to \$100,000, would be collected this year being planned.

The Telephone Policy. A little over two years ago the government took the telephone policy. Now the government owned the telephone system in Edmonton and Red Deer. The telephone system was kept all together apart from the other business of the government. The two systems were kept separate. The telephone system was kept separate. The telephone system was kept separate.

The Premier quoted the items that showed the growth of the telephone public works department. Of this department the government had an income and \$800,000 chargeable to capital account. The latter amount was the cost of the telephone buildings and bridges which it was building. The telephone system was kept separate. The telephone system was kept separate.

Big Increase in Edmonton. The increase in the population of Edmonton was a large one. The population of Edmonton was a large one. The population of Edmonton was a large one. The population of Edmonton was a large one.

Little was now heard of the issues of the election of 1900, for the cause had died. Since the government came to power about \$2,000,000 had been collected, and the expenditure had amounted to within \$600,000. This year the surplus of the government would amount to over \$1,500,000. The surplus of the government would amount to over \$1,500,000.

gary was planned, Lethbridge was planned, and all parts of the province were satisfied. No newspaper or any politician had found fault with the policy, but all had unanimously endorsed it.

The Premier closed with an extended reference to the railway policy adopted on that the new lines would not cost the country a dollar and a cent of land. The bonds would not be guaranteed until the lines were built. Then the people would secure much increased railways without the expenditure of a cent of money or the granting of a acre of land.

Mr. McNeill spoke briefly. He had not been asking for political honor, but he was ready to give his time for the benefit of the city and country. If he were elected, he would give his best efforts for the good of Alberta. He was competing the Rutherford government, and he was suggesting a government that had done great things for Alberta.

Mr. Cross then took up a number of the points of the Rutherford government. He first dealt with the telephone system. He then dealt with the telephone system. He then dealt with the telephone system.

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ONTARIO MUST FACE QUESTION

Telephones Discussed in the Federal House on Resolution Introduced by Haughton Lennox.

Ottawa, Mar. 1.—In the House of Commons this afternoon, the following bill, passed through the committee stage and were given their final readings.

An Act respecting the Joint Inspection of the Canadian Pacific Railway company and the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway company of J. G. Tupper, Ontario—J. G. Tupper.

An Act respecting Crawford Bay and St. Mary's Railway company, and to change its name to The British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba Railway company—Dr. McNeill.

In connection with the second bill, Messrs. McGrath, Connors, Medicine Hat, and Dr. H. Bradbury (C.P.R.) explained that they were not understood in the railway committee when they were reporting a government proposal to this measure. They say that they had no objection to a renewal of the charter but were opposed to the idea of giving "blanket" rights over the whole of the province to the C.P.R. company.

A. Haughton's (C.P.R.) bill to incorporate the Imperial Free Finance company, was sent to the committee stage. Unopposed motions passed, including a motion to amend the bill by showing the names and addresses of the individuals living in the United States who had been in the country since January 1, 1902, and to whom such property had been transferred.

The afternoon was spent in debating the bill, which was given a second reading. It had been a great honor and a challenge to the government. The bill was given a second reading. It had been a great honor and a challenge to the government.

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PREMIER TO THE PEOPLE

To the Electors of Alberta.—Gentlemen:—The First Legislative Assembly of the Province of Alberta has brought its labors to a close by the enactment of a measure for an increase in the numbers of the representatives of the people. On March 22nd next it will be your duty to elect members of the enlarged Assembly. At that election the Government which I have the honor to preside, the Government which you confirmed in office in 1905, asks for your verdict on its work.

The following are a few of the subjects which the Government pledges itself to give its best energies if it is returned to power.

1.—RAILWAYS. The past Session has produced legislation which is the starting point for the future action of the Government. It is the object of the Government to secure railway facilities for every part of the Province now needing them and to increase these facilities as the need increases. It proposes to do this in a form that will insure rapid building of the roads while safeguarding the financial interests of the Province, by guaranteeing the bonds of the lines built, each guarantee being secured by mortgages on the line.

2.—TELEPHONES. The whole Province is already feeling the good effects of the legislation made with the Bell Telephone company. Already the work of extending the old lines in many directions has been begun, and the Government is now endeavoring to continue that extension with the greatest possible celerity.

The past record of the Government and the programme sketched above form a platform on which I stand confidently to appeal to you for your renewed support.

My colleagues in the work of administration were chosen with a single eye to efficiency. They were men who brought to the work of administration the highest ability and integrity, which merits your further confidence, throughout every branch of the Government's good work. I am sure that their services will be continued.

Stetson after session the utmost vigor of capable minds has been centered on the work of legislation. Among the measures passed by the Government the following are the most important, and will be mentioned in the following—

Mechanics' Lien Act. Land Titles Act. Supreme and District Courts Act. Taxation of Corporations Act. Railway Taxation Act. The Coal Mines Eight Hours' Act. Compensation Act. Railway Act. Local Improvement Districts and Village Acts. Liquor License Ordinance Amendment Act.

Neglected Children's Act. Election Act. Administration Act.

These are only the most conspicuous items of the body of legislation which has been submitted to the First Legislative Assembly by the Government. I doubt whether any Government could point to a more successful record in its history and public opinion.

In administration, as in legislation, the aim of the Government has been efficiency and progress. Its record pledges it to a continued and constant work of improvement. It is equally springing into action, and to the free school teachers which have earned for them the highest respect and admiration.

Agriculturalists have ample reason to speak well of the Government and are voicing their approval. The Creameries of Alberta are winning markets at home and abroad. The work of the Government has been successful. The Government has been successful.

The administration of The Public Works Department has been successful. The work of the Department has been successful. The work of the Department has been successful.

The peace and good order of the land continues to be the care of the Royal North-West Mounted Police, whose magnificent organization has been maintained. The Department of the Attorney-General, besides having the chief care of the legislation, has provided the Province with a system of rural justice which inspires confidence in every quarter.

The revenues of the Province are known to you from the Public Accounts. The expenditures also are before you. The Treasury Department, under which I have the honor to preside, has been successful in its work. The Treasury Department has been successful.

The Act to equalize the Revenues of the Crown, the Act to regulate the Taxation of Land for Educational Purposes, and the Act to regulate the Taxation of Land for Educational Purposes, have been successful. The Government has been successful.

The Railway Policy, which I have seen through its first stages in the past Session, is now being carried out. The Government has been successful. The Government has been successful.

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MANY DECLINE THE NOMINATION

Conservatives Pressed to Become Candidates Refuse to Enter Provincial Campaign.

The Conservatives of the city, or at least the portion of them who are in favor of opposing the Hon. Mr. Cross and Mr. McNeill in the coming provincial election, held a convention last night in the club rooms at the convention of the Conservative Association.

The meeting last night was held exclusively for delegates and others were excluded from the gathering. Letters were sent to the members, not elected at the meeting, but chosen by the delegates, and they were notified that they had been selected as delegates to the convention. The delegates were notified that they had been selected as delegates to the convention.

Instead of W. A. Griesbach, president of the Conservative Association, and who was present at the meeting, presiding, Dr. D. Hyndman occupied the chair and presided in a brief speech, stating the reason for the gathering. The primary business of the meeting was the discussion of the nomination of candidates for the coming provincial election.

At length it was decided by a two-thirds vote that the following candidates should be selected and nominated by the delegates: Dr. D. Hyndman, Dr. D. Hyndman, Dr. D. Hyndman.

The Nominations. W. A. Griesbach was the first name placed before the delegates. He was a member of the Conservative Association, but he had been the target of the fight for the nomination. He was a member of the Conservative Association, but he had been the target of the fight for the nomination.

Dr. D. Hyndman was the next name placed before the delegates. He was a member of the Conservative Association, but he had been the target of the fight for the nomination. He was a member of the Conservative Association, but he had been the target of the fight for the nomination.

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